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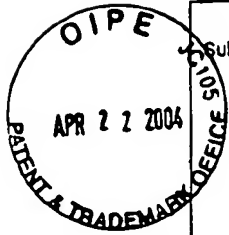
Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/699,175
				Filing Date	October 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Bianchi
				Group Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	4	Attorney Docket No.	4002-3441

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
B		3,486,505	05-1967	Morrison	
		3,848,601	11-1974	Ma	
		4,309,488	01-1982	Heide et al.	
		4,545,374	10-1985	Jacobson	
		4,626,392	12-1986	Kondo et al.	
		4,636,217	01-1987	Ogilvie et al.	
		4,654,314	03-1987	Takagi et al.	
		4,687,675	08-1987	Nakano et al.	
		4,714,469	12-1987	Kenna	
		4,722,870	02-1988	White	
		4,736,738	04-1988	Lipovsek et al.	
		4,743,256	05-1988	Brantigan	
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		4,834,757	05-1989	Brantigan	
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		4,950,296	08-1990	McIntyre	
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		4,976,738	12-1990	Frey et al.	
		5,002,583	03-1991	Pitaru et al.	
		5,015,247	05-1991	Michelson	
		5,026,373	06-1991	Ray et al.	
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		5,250,061	10-1993	Michelson	
		5,258,029	11-1993	Chu et al.	
		5,282,861	02-1994	Kaplan	
		5,306,202	04-1994	Bauer et al.	
Examiner Signature <i>[Signature]</i>			Date Considered 8/4/04		

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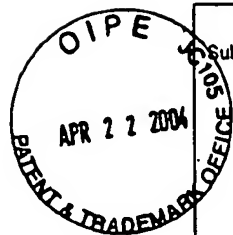
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B		5,306,303	04-1994	Lynch	
		5,306,309	04-1994	Wagner et al.	
		5,329,846	07-1994	Bonutti	
		5,330,826	07-1994	Taylor et al.	
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		5,425,772	06-1995	Brantigan	
		5,443,514	08-1995	Steffee	
		5,445,639	08-1995	Kuslich et al.	
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		5,782,830	07-1998	Farris	

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
B		5,810,819	09-1998	Errico et al.	
		5,814,084	09-1998	Grivas et al.	
		5,857,995	01-1999	Thomas et al.	
		5,904,719	05-1999	Errico et al.	
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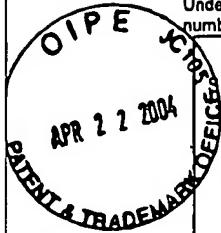
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	†
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
B		EP 0 077 159 A ✓	04-1983			
		GB 2 207 607 A ✓	02-1989			
		EP 0 307 241 ✓	03-1989			
		* DE 37 41 493 A1	06-1989			
		EP 0 392 076 ✓	10-1990			
		WO 95/08306 ✓	03-1995			
		WO 95/15133 ✓	06-1995			
		* WO 96/22747	08-1996			
		WO 96/40013 ✓	12-1996			
B		WO 97/13378 ✓	04-1997			

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Sheet 4 of 4	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 97/15248 ✓	05-1997			
		WO 97/25945 ✓	07-1997			
		WO 98/17209 ✓	04-1998			
		WO 98/17330 ✓	04-1998			
		WO 01/70144 ✓	09-2001			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s) publisher city and/or country where published	T ²
		AcroMed Spine Tools, <i>PLIF Instruments</i> (undated)	
		AcroMed, <i>Brantigan I/F Cage</i> , (undated)	
		Albee, Fred H. MD, <i>Bone Graft Surgery in Disease, Injury and Deformity</i> , published by D. Appleton-Century Company (1940)	
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		Sofamor Danek, <i>Laparoscopic Bone Dowel Surgical Technique</i> , Memphis, Tennessee (1995)	
		<i>Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation Brochure</i> , (Apr. 1996)	
		Sofamor Danek, <i>Surgical Technique Using Bone Dowel Instrumentation for Posterior Approach</i> , LIT.PLIF.ST96 (1996)	
		Sofamor Danek, <i>Surgical Tips Posterior Approach</i> (1998)	
		University of Florida Tissue Bank, Inc. <i>Allograft Catalog</i> (1998)	
		Vaughan, John J. MD, <i>New and Innovative Fusion Techniques</i> , The Kentucky Spines Inst. (Dec. 1998)	

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